

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An oligonucleotide 8 to 50 nucleotides in length which is targeted to mRNA encoding human raf and which is 5 capable of inhibiting raf expression.
2. The oligonucleotide of claim 1 which is targeted to mRNA encoding human A-raf.
3. The oligonucleotide of claim 1 which is targeted to mRNA encoding human B-raf.
- 10 4. The oligonucleotide of claim 1 which is targeted to mRNA encoding human c-raf.
5. The oligonucleotide of claim 4 which is targeted to a translation initiation site, 3' untranslated region or 5' untranslated region of mRNA encoding human c-raf.
- 15 6. The oligonucleotide of claim 1 which has at least one phosphorothioate linkage.
7. The oligonucleotide of claim 1 wherein at least one of the nucleotide units of the oligonucleotide is modified at the 2' position of the sugar moiety.
- 20 8. The oligonucleotide of claim 7 wherein said modification at the 2' position of the sugar moiety is a 2'-O-alkyl, a 2'-O-alkyl-O-alkyl or a 2'-fluoro modification.
9. The oligonucleotide of claim 1 which is a chimeric oligonucleotide.
- 25 10. A composition comprising the oligonucleotide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

11. The composition of claim 10 further comprising a chemotherapeutic agent.

12. A method of inhibiting the expression of human raf in human cells or tissues which express human raf comprising 5 contacting said human cells or tissues with the oligonucleotide of claim 1.

13. A method of treating or preventing a condition associated with the expression of human raf comprising administering to a human or cells thereof a therapeutically 10 effective amount of the oligonucleotide of claim 1.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein said expression of human raf is abnormal expression.

15. The method of claim 13 wherein said condition is a hyperproliferative condition.

15 16. The method of claim 15 wherein said hyperproliferative condition is cancer.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein said hyperproliferative condition is angiogenesis or neovascularization.

20 18. The method of claim 17 wherein said angiogenesis or neovascularization is ocular angiogenesis or neovascularization.

19. The method of claim 16 comprising administering the 25 oligonucleotide in combination with a chemotherapeutic agent.

20. A method of inhibiting hyperproliferation of cells comprising contacting hyperproliferating cells with the oligonucleotide of claim 1.

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